

May 6, 1975

CLERK: Mr. President, an amendment to the Stull amendment.

SPEAKER: Clerk will read.

CLERK: It's nothing more than a reprint of the Stull amendment with Senator Keyes' name on it with the following change: Executive before the word board may at any time call a meeting of the Legislature. And then the rest of it's identical.

SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes Senator Keyes.

SENATOR KEYES: Mr. Speaker, in accordance with what Senator Mahoney has said, if this Legislature has the ability to spend the money, certainly if the taxes that are set do not raise the money, there is no reason under the sun why we should let two or three of the elected officials that are not in the governing of this state but only here to perform a function of government that is not in the executive or the legislative capacity. The thing that we must do is assume our rightful responsibility and if you accept this amendment, we, either the Governor or the Executive Board can call this Legislature into session when there are not enough money in the funds to meet the current expenses. I don't think there is any way that we can say that the Secretary of Treasurer, the Secretary of State or who the other fellow is, I don't know, or Bill Peters, not even an elected member or the Governor of this state have the right to call us in and set the mill levy. Set the levy to run this state. The best thing we can do is accept this amendment to the Stull amendment and that will make that a nice fine bill.

SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes Senator Warner.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President, first I wanted to state that there was an amendment that was distributed for the bill, about a single page which I elected to initial before it was passed out. If there are any questions, it is my amendment. I support the concept of Senator Stull's motion, the amendment that is distributed is somewhat similar. Perhaps it expanded a little bit but I do think there is a need to provide a method by which adjustments can be made if necessary and the amendment that I have which could be added on to the Stull amendment would provide us some guidelines by which those adjustments could be made so it would be a mathematical situation and not just at the whim or put a Governor in a position of have to justify it but he could call a meeting to consider a change if certain conditions had been met. I support the present amendment of setting tax rates. You cannot make the argument that the Legislature is not setting the rates in the current system but in fact, that is not true, the Legislature does set the rate by virtue of what is established in the budget. It's the identical system that was used, as all of you know, for merely a hundred years when we had a state property tax. What the system does is it raises the amount of money that is